

The Date of Publication of KIENER's *Mitra* Monograph in the "Spécies général et iconographie des coquilles vivantes"

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THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DATES of issue of KIENER's "livraisons" of molluscan monographs has caused some difficulty to malacologists in view of the irregular appearance of the undated fascicles. SHERBORN & WOODWARD (1901), realizing the need for a stabilized interpretation of publication dates, collated KIENER's monographs as to the date of issue of text and plates. As in many instances the plates appeared prior to the text, KIENER's new species names are available from the date of issue of the plates which contain specific names on plate legends. SHERBORN & WOODWARD's collatory work (op. cit.) was based on external evidence as to the date of appearance of the fascicles; the authors realized that many gaps remain to be filled.

According to SHERBORN & WOODWARD (op. cit.) the plates to *Mitra* and *Voluta* were supposed to have been issued in fascicle 34, which they date from 22 April 1839; the complete set of plates and text of the monographs on *Mitra* and *Voluta* were said to have appeared in fascicles 34-47 during 1839. The text to *Mitra* and the plates to *Voluta* most probably were issued during 1839; however, there is evidence that the *Mitra* plates appeared already in 1838.

Evidence as to an earlier publication date of the *Mitra* plates may be found in EDUARD ANTON's "Verzeichniß der Conchylien" (1839), a work which is generally considered to antedate KIENER's *Mitra* monograph. A perusal of this publication shows, however, that ANTON's "Verzeichniß" postdates KIENER's *Mitra* monograph. The title page of the "Verzeichniß" bears the date 1839, ANTON's "Vorrede" (page iii) is dated 3 August 1838, and the last page, 110, bears the imprint "Im Druck beendigt den 9. Oktober 1838," meaning that by that date printing was completed. ANTON (page x) lists the titles of works used in his study, and acknowledged receipt of KIENER's 32 fascicles dated 1834-38 as follows: *Thracia*, *Pyramidella*, *Tornatella*, *Scalaria*, *Delphinula*, *Solarium*, *Rotella*, *Mitra*, *Struthiolaria*, *Purpura*, *Eburna*, *Terebra*, *Buccinum*, *Harpa*, *Dolium*, *Cassidaria*, *Cassis* and *Marginella*. In the text ANTON freely quotes

KIENER's species and figures of *Mitra*, the highest figure number cited from KIENER being 105. It is evident that prior to the completion of printing of the "Verzeichniß," i. e. 9 October 1838, ANTON received the complete set of *Mitra* plates (32 plates out of a total of 34 being cited), which must have appeared in or prior to fascicle 32. It appears, therefore, that the records of the "Bibliographie de la France" as cited by SHERBORN & WOODWARD (op. cit.) were correct after all when acknowledging receipt of KIENER's "livraisons 26 à 36" by December 1838. SHERBORN & WOODWARD suspected that this should have read 20-30.

It is evident that KIENER's *Mitra* monograph, apart from the text, should date from 1838, and that it antedates ANTON's "Verzeichniß." Since there is no evidence in ANTON's publication that the *Mitra* text appeared already in 1838, SHERBORN & WOODWARD's date of 1839 should be tentatively retained for the text alone. The species *M. cancellarioides* ANTON, which replaces *M. nodosa* SWAINSON, 1823 (non BORSON, 1820), has priority over *M. tuberculata* KIENER, which first appeared on plate 27, figure 87 as *M. fraga* (non QUOY & GAIMARD, 1833; nec KIENER, pl. 9, fig. 26). KIENER changed his homonymous *M. fraga* to *M. tuberculata* in the text to *Mitra* under the heading "Table des Espèces des Mitres" on page 119, which dates from 1839.

LITERATURE CITED

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